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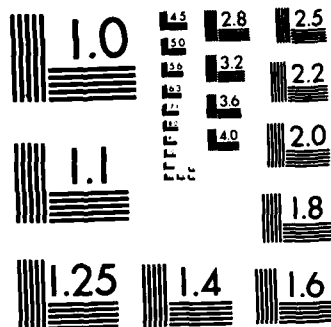
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## PREFACE

This technical report is an invited chapter for the *Handbook of Statistics: Nonparametric Methods*, Volume 4 in a series edited by P. R. Krishnaiah and P. K. Sen and to be published by North-Holland Publishing Company, Amsterdam. Much of the material by the author used in the chapter was developed under ONR-sponsored research at the Florida State University and earlier at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Some minor new generalizations of earlier work are included here.

Ralph A. Bradley

## Paired Comparisons

by

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### 1. Introduction

Interest in paired comparisons in statistics and psychometrics has developed in the contexts of the design of experiments, nonparametric statistics, and scaling, including multidimensional scaling. Applications have arisen in many areas, but most notably in food technology, marketing research, and sports competition. An extensive bibliography on paired comparisons by Davidson and Farquhar (1976) contains some 400 references.

Paired comparisons have been considered in design of experiments as incomplete block designs with block size two by Clatworthy (1955) and others. Scheffé (1952) developed an analysis of variance for paired comparisons with consideration for possible order effects for the two treatments within blocks. When the usual parametric models of analysis of variance are imposed, the analysis of such designs follows standard methods and will not be discussed here.

The emphasis in this chapter will be on paired comparisons as a means of designing comparative experiments when no natural measuring scale is available. The author's interest in paired comparisons arose in consideration of statistical methods in sensory difference testing.

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When responses of individuals to items under comparison are subjective, and particularly when sensory responses to taste, odor, color or sound are involved, evaluation is easier when the number of items or samples to be considered at one time is small and the effects of sensory fatigue are minimized. Probabilistic models for paired comparisons may be devised to represent the experimental situation and permit appropriate data analysis. The models provide probabilities of possible choices of items or treatments from pairs of items and hence depend on orderings. The statistical methods devised are thus ranking methods and, while they are not literally non-parametric methods, they are often so classified.

The basic paired comparisons experiment has  $t$  treatments,  $T_1, \dots, T_t$ , and  $n_{ij} \geq 0$  comparisons of  $T_i$  with  $T_j$ ,  $n_{ji} = n_{ij}$ ,  $i \neq j$ ,  $i, j = 1, \dots, t$ . For each comparison, preference or order is designated by  $a_{ija}$ ,  $a_{ija} = 1$  if  $T_i$  is "preferred" to  $T_j$  in the  $\alpha^{\text{th}}$  comparison of  $T_i$  and  $T_j$ ,  $a_{ija} = 0$  otherwise,  $a_{ija} + a_{jia} = 1$ . In further definition of notation, let

$$a_{ij} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{n_{ij}} a_{ija} \text{ and } a_i = \sum_{\substack{j \\ j \neq i}} a_{ij}, \text{ the total number of preferences for } T_i.$$

In sensory evaluations, responses may be preferences or attribute order judgments on such characteristics as sweetness, smoothness, whiteness, etc. We shall loosely refer to preference judgments.

Dykstra (1960) provides typical data on a paired comparisons preference taste test involving four variations of the same product. The data are summarized in Table 1. Note that the experiment is not balanced:  $n_{12} = 140$ ,  $n_{13} = 54$ ,  $n_{14} = 57$ ,  $n_{23} = 63$ ,  $n_{24} = 58$ ,  $n_{34} = 0$ ; treatments  $T_3$  and  $T_4$  were not compared. Unbalanced experiments are permissible as long as the design is connected: it is not possible to select a subset of the treatments

Table 1  
Summary of Results of a Taste Test

	$T_1$	$T_2$	$T_3$	$T_4$	$a_i$
$T_1$	--	28	15	23	66
$T_2$	112	--	46	47	205
$T_3$	39	17	--	--	56
$T_4$	34	11	--	--	45

such that no treatment in the subset is compared directly with a treatment in the complementary subset. Balanced experiments are more efficient when there is equal interest in all treatments and treatment comparisons.

We shall return to analysis of the data of Table 1, which gives values of  $a_{ij}$ , after discussion of models for paired comparisons and establishment of basic procedures.

This chapter is organized in such a way as to give initial attention to the analysis of basic paired comparisons data like those of Table 1. Then extensions of the method are developed for factorial treatment combinations and for multivariate responses, responses on several attributes for each paired comparison. The emphasis is on the methodology and applications, although properties of procedures are noted and references given. We conclude with comments on additional methods of analysis.

## 2. Models for Paired Comparisons

When  $t = 2$ , a paired comparisons experiment with treatments  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  might be modelled as  $n_{12} > 0$  independent Bernoulli trials with probabilities of choices for  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  being  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ ,  $\pi_i \geq 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $\pi_1 + \pi_2 = 1$ . Then in some sense  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  are measures of "worth" of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ . Binomial theory applies and the sign test may be used to test the hypothesis,  $H_0: \pi_1 = \pi_2$ .

Bradley and Terry (1952a) proposed a basic model for paired comparisons, extended by Dykstra (1960) to include unequal values of the  $n_{ij}$ . The approach was a heuristic extension of the special binomial when  $t = 2$ . Treatment parameters,  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_t$ ,  $\pi_i \geq 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ , are associated with the  $t$  treatments,  $T_1, \dots, T_t$ . It was postulated that these parameters represent relative selection probabilities for the treatments so that the probability of selection of  $T_i$  when compared with  $T_j$  is

$$P(T_i \rightarrow T_j) = \pi_i / (\pi_i + \pi_j), \quad i \neq j, \quad i, j = 1, \dots, t. \quad (2.1)$$

Since the right-hand member of (2.1) is invariant under change of scale, specificity was obtained by the requirement that

$$\sum_{i=1}^t \pi_i = 1. \quad (2.2)$$

The model proposed imposes structure in that the most general model might postulate binomial parameters  $\pi_{ij}$  and  $\pi_{ji} = 1 - \pi_{ij}$  for comparisons of  $T_i$  and  $T_j$  so that the totality of functionally independent parameters is  $\binom{t}{2}$  rather than  $(t-1)$  as specified in (2.1) and (2.2).



The basic model (2.1) for paired comparisons has been discovered and rediscovered by various authors. Zermelo (1929) seems to have proposed it first in consideration of chess competition. Ford (1957) proposed the model independently. Both Zermelo and Ford concentrated on solution of normal equations for parameter estimation and Ford proved convergence of the iterative procedure for solution.

The model arises as one of the special simple realizations of more general models developed from distributional or psychophysical approaches. Bradley (1976) has reviewed various model formulations and discussed them under categories -- linear models, the Lehmann model, psychophysical models, and models of choice and worth.

David (1963, Section 1.3) supposes that  $T_i$  has "merit"  $V_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ , when judged on some characteristic, and that these merits may be represented on a merit scale. He defined "linear" models to be such that

$$P(T_i \rightarrow T_j) = H(V_i - V_j), \quad (2.3)$$

where  $H$  is a distribution function for a symmetric distribution,  $H(-x) = 1 - H(x)$ . Model (2.1) is a linear model since it may be written in the form,

$$P(T_i \rightarrow T_j) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-(\log \pi_i - \log \pi_j)}^{\infty} \text{sech}^2 y/2 \, dy = \pi_i / (\pi_i + \pi_j), \quad (2.4)$$

as described by Bradley (1953) using the logistic density function.

Thurstone (1927) proposed a model for paired comparisons, that is also a linear model, through the concept of a subjective continuum, an inherent sensation scale on which order, but not physical measurement,

could be discerned. Mosteller (1951) provides a detailed formulation and an analysis of Thurstone's important Case V. With suitable scaling, each treatment has a location point on the continuum, say  $\mu_i$  for  $T_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ . An individual is assumed to receive a sensation  $X_i$  in response to  $T_i$ , with responses  $X_i$  normally distributed about  $\mu_i$ . When an individual compares  $T_i$  and  $T_j$ , he in effect is assumed to report the order of sensations  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  which may be correlated;  $X_i > X_j$  may be associated with  $T_i \rightarrow T_j$ . Case V takes all such correlations equal and the variances of all  $X_i$  equal. The probability of selection may be written

$$P(T_i \rightarrow T_j) = P(X_i > X_j) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} - (\mu_i - \mu_j)} \int e^{-y^2/2} dy. \quad (2.5)$$

It is apparent from (2.4) and (2.5) that the two models are very similar. The choice between the models is much like the choice between logits and probits in biological assay. The use of  $\log \pi_i$  as a measure of location for  $T_i$  in the first model is suggested.

Models (2.4) and (2.5) give very similar results in applications. Comparisons are made by Fleckenstein, Freund and Jackson (1958) with test data on comparisons of typewriter carbon papers. In general, more extensions of model (2.4) exist and we shall use that model in this chapter.

### 3. Basic Procedures

The general approach to analysis of paired comparisons based on the model (2.1) is through likelihood methods. On the assumption of independent responses for the  $n_{ij}$  comparisons of  $T_i$  and  $T_j$ , the binomial component

of the likelihood function for this pair of treatments is

$$\left(\frac{\pi_i}{\pi_i + \pi_j}\right)^{a_{ij}} \left(\frac{\pi_j}{\pi_i + \pi_j}\right)^{a_{ji}} = \pi_i^{a_{ij}} \pi_j^{a_{ji}} / (\pi_i + \pi_j)^{n_{ij}},$$

ties or no preference judgments not being permitted. The complete likelihood function, on the assumption of independence of judgments between pairs of treatments, is

$$L = \prod_i \pi_i^{a_i} / \prod_{i < j} (\pi_i + \pi_j)^{n_{ij}}. \quad (3.1)$$

It is seen that  $a_1, \dots, a_t$  constitute a set of sufficient statistics for the estimation of  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_t$  and that  $a_i$  is the total number of preferences or selections of  $T_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ , for the entire experiment.

### 3.1. Likelihood Estimation

ML estimators,  $p_i$  for  $\pi_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ , are obtained through maximization of  $\log L$  in (3.1) subject to the constraint (2.2). After minor simplifications, the resulting likelihood equations are

$$\frac{a_i}{p_i} - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{n_{ij}}{p_i + p_j} = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, t, \quad (3.2)$$

and

$$\sum_i p_i = 1. \quad (3.3)$$

Solution of equations (3.2) and (3.3) is done iteratively. If  $p_i^{(k)}$  is the  $k^{\text{th}}$  approximation to  $p_i$ ,

$$p_i^{(k)} = p_i^{*(k)} / \sum_i p_i^{*(k)},$$

where

$$p_i^{*(k)} = a_i / \sum_{j \neq i} [n_{ij} / (p_i^{(k-1)} + p_j^{(k-1)})], \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

The iteration is started with initial specification of the  $p_i^{(0)}$ ; one may take  $p_i^{(0)} = 1/t$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ , and this is adequate although Dykstra (1956, 1960) has suggested better initial values.

We return to the example of Table 1. Values of  $a_i$  are given in the table and values of  $n_{ij}$  precede the table. Solution of equations (3.2) and (3.3) was begun with  $p_i^{(0)} = 1/4$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 4$ . Results for initial iterations are summarized in Table 2 along with final values for  $p_i$ ; typically approximately 10 iterations are sufficient for four-decimal accuracy in the final values. It is this iterative procedure that Ford (1957) has shown to converge. The procedure is easy to program on computers because of the symmetry of the equations to be solved. Bradley and Terry (1952a) and Bradley (1954a) have provided tables giving values of the  $p_i$  for equal values of the  $n_{ij} = n$ ,  $t = 3$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, 10$ ;  $t = 4$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, 8$ ;  $t = 5$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, 5$ .

In small experiments, small values of the  $n_{ij}$ , perhaps with poorly selected treatments, the estimates  $p_i$  may define a point on a boundary of the parameter space. These situations may be recognized from tables like Table 1 and require special consideration. As an example, refer to Table 1 and suppose that  $T_2$  and  $T_3$  are always preferred to  $T_1$  and  $T_4$  and Table 1 is unchanged otherwise. Then  $a_1 = 23$ ,  $a_2 = 244$ ,  $a_3 = 71$  and  $a_4 = 34$ . Treatments  $T_2$  and  $T_3$  dominate  $T_1$  and  $T_4$  and information on the

Table 2  
Values of the Estimators in the Iterative Solution

$T_i$	$p_i^{(0)}$	$p_i^{(1)}$	$p_i^{(2)}$	$p_i^{(3)}$	$p_i^{(4)}$	$p_i^{(5)}$	$p_i$
1	.25	.1371	.1188	.1137	.1112	.1101	.1082
2	.25	.4094	.4656	.4918	.5049	.5131	.5193
3	.25	.2495	.2413	.2357	.2327	.2290	.2294
4	.25	.2040	.1743	.1588	.1512	.1478	.1431

relative values of  $T_2$  and  $T_3$  comes only from the direct comparisons of  $T_2$  and  $T_3$ . It follows that  $p_1 = 0$ ,  $p_2 = 46/63 = .7302$ ,  $p_3 = 17/63 = .2698$ , and  $p_4 = 0$ . But there is also information on the relative values of  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_4$ . We find  $p_1/p_4 = 23/34 = .4035/.5965$  and can write  $p_1 = .4035\delta$  and  $p_4 = .5965\delta$ ,  $\delta$  infinitesimal. A formal analysis may be conducted through minimization of  $\log L$  with respect to  $\pi_1^*$ ,  $\pi_2^*$ ,  $\pi_3^*$ ,  $\pi_4^*$ ,  $\pi_2^* + \pi_3^* = 1$ ,  $\pi_1^* + \pi_4^* = 1$ , where  $\pi_1 = \delta\pi_1^*$ ,  $\pi_4 = \delta\pi_4^*$  and  $\delta$  is small. Indeed, the maximum value of  $\log L$  may be found in this way and it is needed in the computation of likelihood ratios as discussed below. Bradley (1954a) provides additional discussion of these special boundary problems. problems not usually encountered in applications.

### 3.2. Tests of Hypotheses

(i) The major test proposed by Bradley and Terry (1952) was that of treatment preference or selection equality. The null hypothesis is

$$H_0: \pi_1 = \pi_2 = \dots = \pi_t = 1/t \quad (3.4)$$

and the general alternative hypothesis is

$$H_a: \pi_i \neq \pi_j \text{ for some } i, j, i \neq j, i, j = 1, \dots, t. \quad (3.5)$$

If we designate the likelihood ratio as  $\lambda_1$ , it is easy to show that

$$-2 \log \lambda_1 = 2N \log 2 - 2B_1, \quad N = \sum_{i < j} n_{ij}, \quad (3.6)$$

$$B_1 = \sum_{i < j} n_{ij} \log(p_i + p_j) - \sum_i a_i \log p_i.$$

For large  $n_{ij}$ ,  $-2 \log \lambda_1$  has the central chi-square distribution with  $(t-1)$  degrees of freedom under  $H_0$ . Values of  $B_1$ , together with exact significance levels, were provided with the cited tables\* of estimators  $p_i$ . Comparison of significance levels for the large-sample test with small-sample exact significance levels in the tables suggests that the former may be used for modest values of the  $n_{ij}$ , a situation perhaps comparable to use of the normal approximation to the binomial.

For the values of the  $a_i$  of Table 1, the noted values of the  $n_{ij}$  above that table,  $N = 372$ , and the values of the  $p_i$  in Table 2, we have  $B_1 = 206.3214$  and  $-2 \log \lambda_1 = 103.06$  with 3 degrees of freedom. There is a clear indication that the  $\pi_i$  are not equal and that treatment preferences differ.

(ii) It is always incumbent on statisticians to check the validity of models used in statistical analyses when possible. We have noted above that a general "multi-binomial" model with  $\binom{t}{2}$  functionally independent parameters  $\pi_{ij}$  may be posed that ignores the structure of paired comparisons in the sense that the same treatment is compared with more than

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\*Common logarithms were used to compute  $B_1$  in these tables. In this paper, natural logarithms are used throughout.

one other treatment. The multi-binomial model fits the data of tables like Table 1 perfectly. This permits a test of the more restrictive model of (2.1).

The following likelihood ratio test was proposed by Bradley (1954b) and extended by Dykstra (1960). Consider the null hypothesis,

$$H_0: \pi_{ij} = \pi_i / (\pi_i + \pi_j), i \neq j, i, j = 1, \dots, t, \quad (3.7)$$

and the alternative hypothesis,

$$H_a: \pi_{ij} \neq \pi_i / (\pi_i + \pi_j), \text{ for some } i, j, i \neq j. \quad (3.8)$$

Under  $H_a$ , the likelihood estimator of  $\pi_{ij}$  is  $p_{ij} = a_{ij}/n_{ij}$  when  $n_{ij} > 0$  and the estimator is not needed when  $n_{ij} = 0$ . Under  $H_0$ ,  $p_i$  is the estimator of  $\pi_i$  from equations (3.2) and (3.3). Designating  $\lambda_2$  as the likelihood ratio statistic, we have

$$-2 \log \lambda_2 = 2 \left( \sum_{i \neq j} a_{ij} \log a_{ij} - \sum_{i < j} n_{ij} \log n_{ij} + B_1 \right). \quad (3.9)$$

For large  $n_{ij}$ ,  $-2 \log \lambda_2$  is taken to have the chi-square distribution with  $\binom{t}{2} - (t-1) = \frac{1}{2}(t-1)(t-2)$  degrees of freedom under  $H_0$ . An alternative statistic, asymptotically equivalent to that of (3.9), is

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i \neq j} (a_{ij} - a'_{ij})^2 / a'_{ij}, \quad (3.10)$$

where  $a'_{ij} = n_{ij}p_i / (p_i + p_j)$  and  $a_{ij} = n_{ij}p_{ij}$ . This alternate form may be rewritten,

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i \neq j} n_{ij} \{ p_{ij} - [p_i / (p_i + p_j)] \}^2 / [p_i / (p_i + p_j)]. \quad (3.11)$$

Dykstra has noted that the test statistics may be distorted when some  $n_{ij}$  are small. Since there is no basis for pooling terms in this case, he suggested omitting terms in (3.11) with very small values of  $n_{ij}$  (and hence  $n_{ji}$ ) and deleting one degree of freedom for each pair of terms so deleted.

For the data of Table 1,  $n_{34} = 0$  and the tests for the fit of the model have  $\frac{1}{2}(3)(2) - 1 = 2$  degrees of freedom. From (3.9),  $-2 \log \lambda_2 = 2.02$  and there seems to be no reason to doubt the appropriateness of the model (2.1). The statistic in (3.10) is evaluated also for illustrative purposes. Values of the  $a'_{ij}$  are given in Table 3 and they may be compared directly with the values of  $a_{ij}$  in Table 1. Computation yields  $\chi^2 = 2.00$ ; the close agreement of the two computations is typical.

Table 3  
Estimated Frequencies for the Data of Table 1

	$T_1$	$T_2$	$T_3$	$T_4$	Row Sums
$T_1$	-	24.14	17.31	24.54	65.99
$T_2$	115.86	-	43.70	45.47	205.03
$T_3$	36.69	19.30	-	-	55.99
$T_4$	32.46	12.53	-	-	44.99

In the author's fairly extensive experience in fitting model (2.1) to data in food technology and consumer testing, the model is usually



found to fit well. When the model does not fit, one or more treatments are often found to possess a characteristic not found in the others, possibly leading to preference judgments influenced by this attribute when such treatments are in a comparison.

(iii) In some uses of paired comparisons, responses may be obtained for several demographic groups, under different evaluation conditions, or other criterion for grouping responses. The possibility of group by treatment interaction or preference disagreement arises and this may be tested.

Let  $u = 1, \dots, g$  index groups of responses in paired comparisons, let  $\pi_i^u$  be the treatment parameter for  $T_i$  in group  $u$ , and suppose that sufficient comparisons are made within each group to obtain  $p_i^u$ , the estimator of  $\pi_i^u$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ . Interest is in the hypotheses,

$$H_0: \pi_i^u = \pi_i, i = 1, \dots, t; u = 1, \dots, g, \quad (3.12)$$

and

$$H_a: \pi_i^u \neq \pi_i \text{ for some } i \text{ and } u. \quad (3.13)$$

The likelihood ratio test depends on

$$-2 \log \lambda_3 = 2(B_1 - \sum_{u=1}^g B_{1u}),$$

where  $B_{1u}$  is computed from (3.6) for the data within group  $u$  and  $B_1$  is computed similarly for the pooled data from all of the groups. For large values of the  $n_{iju}$ , the number of comparisons of  $T_i$  and  $T_j$  in group  $u$ ,  $-2 \log \lambda_3$  has the central chi-square distribution with  $(g-1)(t-1)$  degrees of freedom under  $H_0$  of (3.12).

An omnibus test of treatment equality may be described:

$$H_0: \pi_i^u = 1/t, i = 1, \dots, t; u = 1, \dots, g,$$

$$H_a: \pi_i^u \neq 1/t \text{ for some } i \text{ and } u,$$

$$-2 \log \lambda_4 = 2N \log 2 - 2 \sum_{u=1}^g B_{1u}, N = \sum_{u=1}^g N_u = \sum_u \sum_{i < j} n_{iju}.$$

The test statistic is taken to have the chi-square distribution with  $g(t-1)$  degrees of freedom under  $H_0$ . An analysis of chi-square table may be formed:  $-2 \log \lambda_4 = -2 \log \lambda_3 - 2 \log \lambda_1$ , where  $-2 \log \lambda_1$  is the test statistic of (3.6) based on the pooled data.

Bradley and Terry (1952a) gave a small example for two tasters evaluating pork roasts from hogs with differing diets,  $t = 3$ ,  $g = 2$ ,  $n_{iju} = 5$  for all  $i, j, u$ ,  $i \neq j$ . The data are summarized in Table 4 and Table 5 is the analysis of chi-square table. The large total treatment effect is seen to be due to disagreement of the two judges on preferences.

Table 4  
Roast Pork Preference Data for Two Judges

Diet	Judge 1		Judge 2		Pooled Data	
$T_i$	$a_i^{(1)}$	$p_i^{(1)}$	$a_i^{(2)}$	$p_i^{(2)}$	$a_i$	$P_i$
1	1	.0526	7	.5324	8	.2479
2	7	.4737	5	.2993	12	.4268
3	7	.4737	3	.1683	10	.3253
	$B_{11} = 6.7166$		$B_{12} = 9.2895$		$B_1 = 20.2565$	

Table 5  
Analysis of Chi Square, Roast Pork Data

Test	Statistic	d.f.	$\chi^2$
Treatments, given agreement	$-2 \log \lambda_1$	2	1.07
Judge by Treatment Interaction	$-2 \log \lambda_3$	2	8.50
Treatments	$-2 \log \lambda_4$	4	9.58

(iv) Tests for specified treatment contrasts, contrasts on the  $\log \pi_i$ , may be made by the method of Section 5.

Bradley and Terry (1952a) proposed one additional test. It was assumed that the treatments fell into two groups, say  $T_1, \dots, T_s$  and  $T_{s+1}, \dots, T_t$ , with  $\pi_1 = \dots = \pi_s = \pi$  and  $\pi_{s+1} = \dots = \pi_t = (1-s\pi)/(t-s)$ . The test is of the equality of  $\pi$  and  $(1-s\pi)/(t-s)$ , or equivalently of  $\pi_i = 1/t$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ , against the two-group alternative of the assumption. The reader is referred to the reference for details.

### 3.3. Confidence Regions

Large-sample theory may be used to obtain variances and covariances for the estimators  $p_1, \dots, p_t$  or their logarithms in paired comparisons. Bradley (1955) considered this theory with each  $n_{ij} = n$  and Davidson and Bradley (1970), considering the multivariate model discussed in Section 6 obtained results for general  $n_{ij}$  as a special case.

Let  $\mu_{ij} = n_{ij}/N$ . Then  $\sqrt{N}(p_1 - \pi_1), \dots, \sqrt{N}(p_t - \pi_t)$  have the singular multivariate normal distribution of dimensionality  $(t-1)$  in a space of  $t$

dimensions with zero mean vector and dispersion matrix  $\Sigma = [\sigma_{ij}]$  such that

$$\sigma_{ij} = \text{cofactor of } \lambda_{ij} \text{ in } \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\Lambda} & \underline{1} \\ \underline{1}' & 0 \end{bmatrix} \bigg/ \begin{vmatrix} \underline{\Lambda} & \underline{1} \\ \underline{1}' & 0 \end{vmatrix}, \quad (3.14)$$

where  $\underline{\Lambda} = [\lambda_{ij}]$ ,  $\underline{1}'$  is the  $t$ -dimensional unit row vector, and

$$\lambda_{ii} = \frac{1}{\pi_i} \sum_{j \neq i} \mu_{ij} \pi_j / (\pi_i + \pi_j)^2, \quad i = 1, \dots, t,$$

and

(3.15)

$$\lambda_{ij} = -\mu_{ij} / (\pi_i + \pi_j)^2, \quad i \neq j, \quad i, j = 1, \dots, t.$$

In order to use these results in applications,  $\sigma_{ij}$  must be estimated; this is done through substitution of  $p_i$  for  $\pi_i$  in (3.15) to obtain the  $\hat{\lambda}_{ij}$ , and subsequent substitution in (3.14) yields the  $\hat{\sigma}_{ij}$ 's.

For the data of Table 1, values of  $p_1, \dots, p_4$  in Table 2 are used to obtain

$$\hat{\underline{\Lambda}} = \begin{bmatrix} 10.4963 & -.9558 & -1.2740 & -2.4259 \\ -.9558 & .4304 & -.3022 & -.3553 \\ -1.2740 & -.3022 & .7441 & 0 \\ -2.4259 & -.3553 & 0 & 3.1237 \end{bmatrix}$$

from whence

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} .0800 & -.0695 & -.0314 & .0208 \\ -.0695 & .6644 & -.4689 & -.1260 \\ -.0314 & -.4689 & .6784 & -.1781 \\ .0208 & -.1260 & -.1781 & .2833 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (3.16)$$

Note that  $\hat{\Sigma}$  is singular, the row and column sums being zero.

Approximate confidence regions may be obtained. The confidence interval on  $\pi_i$  is developed from the fact that  $\sqrt{N}(p_i - \pi_i)/\sqrt{\delta_{ii}}$  is standard normal for large  $N$ . In the example, the .95-confidence interval for  $\pi_1$  is (.0795, .1369). Let  $\pi^*$  be a vector containing any subset of  $t^*$  distinct parameters of the set,  $t^* < t$ . The  $(1-\alpha)$ -confidence region for these  $t^*$  parameters is that ellipsoidal region of the parameter subspace for which

$$N(\pi^* - p^*)' \hat{\Sigma}^{-1} (\pi^* - p^*) \leq \chi_{\alpha, t^*}^2. \quad (3.17)$$

In (3.17),  $p^*$  is the vector of estimates corresponding to  $\pi^*$ ,  $\hat{\Sigma}^*$  is the dispersion matrix for  $\sqrt{N}(p^* - \pi^*)$  obtainable from (3.16), and  $\chi_{\alpha, t^*}^2$  is the  $(1-\alpha)$ -percentage point of the central chi-square distribution with  $t^*$  degrees of freedom. As an example, let  $\pi^* = (\pi_1, \pi_2)'$  and then  $p^* = (.1082, .5193)$ ,

$$\hat{\Sigma}^* = \begin{bmatrix} .0800 & -.0695 \\ -.0695 & .6644 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \hat{\Sigma}^{*-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 13.7441 & 1.4372 \\ 1.4372 & 1.6553 \end{bmatrix},$$

with  $\alpha = .01$ ,  $t^* = 2$ ,  $\chi_{.01, 2}^2 = 9.210$ , it may be verified that (3.17) yields the .99-confidence region,

$$13.7441(\pi_1 - .1082)^2 + 1.6553(\pi_2 - .5193)^2 + 2.8744(\pi_1 - .1082)(\pi_2 - .5193) \leq .0248.$$

Since it may be appropriate to regard  $\log \pi_i$  as the location parameter for  $T_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ , in view of (2.4) and (2.5), confidence intervals or regions on the  $\log \pi_i$  may be desired. It follows that  $\sqrt{N}(\log p_1 - \log \pi_1), \dots, \sqrt{N}(\log p_t - \log \pi_t)$  have the singular multivariate normal distribution with zero mean vector and dispersion matrix  $DD'$ , where  $D$  is the diagonal matrix with typical element  $1/\pi_i$ . Estimated variances and covariances are as follows:  $\text{est. var.}(\sqrt{N} \log p_i) = \hat{\sigma}_{ii}/p_i^2$ ,  $\text{est. covar.}(\sqrt{N} \log p_i, \sqrt{N} \log p_j) = \hat{\sigma}_{ij}/p_i p_j$ ,  $i \neq j$ . Confidence intervals or regions on the  $\log \pi_i$  may be obtained analogously to those shown above for the  $\pi_i$ . If a method of multiple comparisons is to be used, the necessary variances and covariances may be obtained from the information given.

In the very special case when each  $n_{ij} = n$ , approximate variances and covariances may be obtained if the treatments are not too disparate. Then, on the assumption that  $\pi_i = 1/t$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ ,  $\sigma_{ii} = 2(t-1)^2/t^3$  and  $\sigma_{ij} = -2(t-1)/t^3$ ,  $i \neq j$ , while  $N = n \binom{t}{2}$ . Like the binomial with its stable variance for its parameter in a middle range, so are the variances and covariances stable in paired comparisons when the  $\pi_i$  are near  $1/t$  and the  $n_{ij} = n$ . This can reduce computational effort for balanced experiments.

### 3.4. Asymptotic Relative Efficiency

It is well known that the asymptotic relative efficiency of the sign test to the Student test is  $2/\pi$  when assumptions for the latter apply and appropriate data could be obtained. Bradley (1955) showed that, under similar conditions, the asymptotic relative efficiency of paired comparisons relative to a randomized complete block design with the same number of treatment replications is  $t/\pi(t-1)$ , when each  $n_{ij} = n$ . This result may be adjusted to show

that the relative efficiency of paired comparisons relative to the analysis of variance for the similar balanced incomplete block design is  $2/\pi$  by the methods of Raghavarao (1971, Sections 4.3 and 4.5).

While the asymptotic relative efficiency factor of  $2/\pi$  suggests loss of efficiency through use of the ranking or preference designations of paired comparisons, the method is usually used because measurement scales are not available for sensory or judgment evaluations.

#### 4. Extensions of the Basic Model

##### 4.1. Adjustments for Ties

The basic paired comparisons experiment forces decision on the part of the respondent and data like those of Table 1 result. Nevertheless, ties or "non-selection" judgments often arise, for example, in consumer testing.

The treatment of ties in the sign test has received considerable attention. Hemelrijk (1952) demonstrated that the most powerful test of significance was obtained by omission of ties and use of a conditional binomial test on the sample results so reduced. But the treatment of ties must depend on experimental objectives, see Gridgeman (1959), and estimation of potential share of a consumer market surely must require other considerations. Decisions for paired comparisons must be similar to those for the sign test. Two formal methods for the treatment of ties in paired comparisons are available.

Rao and Kupper (1967) introduced a parameter  $\theta \geq 1$  and adjusted probabilities associated with the comparison of  $T_i$  and  $T_j$  to obtain

$$P(T_i = T_j) = \pi_i / (\pi_i + \theta \pi_j) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-(\log \pi_i - \log \pi_j) + \eta}^{\infty} \operatorname{sech}^2 y/2 dy,$$

and

$$P(T_i = T_j) = (\theta^2 - 1) \pi_i \pi_j / (\pi_i + \theta \pi_j)(\theta \pi_i + \pi_j) \quad (4.1)$$

$$= \frac{-(\log \pi_i - \log \pi_j) + \eta}{-(\log \pi_i - \log \pi_j) - \eta} \int_{-(\log \pi_i - \log \pi_j) - \eta}^{\infty} \operatorname{sech}^2 y/2 dy, \quad i \neq j,$$

where  $\eta = \log \theta$ . It is seen that the model extends the linear model of (2.4) and that  $\log \theta$  is, in a sense, a threshold parameter associated with discriminatory ability.

Rao and Kupper extended the theory in parallel with that given above. Unfortunately, they assumed that  $n_{ij} = n$ , but the work is easily extended. We summarize only the results leading to the test of treatment equality, although they provide other asymptotic results including variances and covariances for their estimators. We use our notation. Let  $N = \sum_{i < j} n_{ij}$  and  $b_{ij}$  be the sum of the number of ties and the number of preferences for  $T_i$  in the  $n_{ij}$  comparisons of  $T_i$  and  $T_j$ . Let  $b_i = \sum_{j \neq i} b_{ij}$  and let  $b_0$  be the total number of ties in the experiment. The likelihood equations are:

$$\frac{b_i}{p_i} - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{b_{ij}}{p_i + \theta p_j} - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{b_{ji}}{\theta p_i + p_j} = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, t,$$

$$\sum_i p_i = 1, \quad (4.2)$$

$$\frac{b_0 \hat{\theta}}{\theta^2 - 1} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{b_{ij} p_j}{p_i + \hat{\theta} p_j} = 0,$$



where  $p_i$  is the estimator of  $\pi_i$  and  $\hat{\theta}$  of  $\theta$ . The likelihood ratio test of  $H_0: \pi_i = 1/t, i = 1, \dots, t$ , versus  $H_a: \pi_i \neq 1/t$  for some  $i$ , leads to the statistic,

$$-2 \log \lambda_1^* = 2N \log 2N - 2b_0 \log 2b_0 - 2(N-b_0) \log(N-b_0) - 2B_1^*, \quad (4.3)$$

where

$$B_1^* = \sum_{i \neq j} b_{ij} \log(p_i + \hat{\theta} p_j) - \sum_i b_i \log p_i - b_0 \log(\hat{\theta}^2 - 1). \quad (4.4)$$

Again, for large  $N$  and under  $H_0$ ,  $-2 \log \lambda_1^*$  has the central chi-square distribution with  $(t-1)$  degrees of freedom. An iterative solution of equations (4.2) is suggested by Rao and Kupper. They provided also a test of the hypothesis,  $\theta = \theta_0$ , against the alternative,  $\theta \neq \theta_0$ .

Davidson (1970) proposed probabilities corresponding to those of (4.1)

as

$$P(T_i \rightarrow T_j) = \pi_i / (\pi_i + \pi_j + v\sqrt{\pi_i \pi_j})$$

and

(4.5)

$$P(T_i = T_j) = v\sqrt{\pi_i \pi_j} / (\pi_i + \pi_j + v\sqrt{\pi_i \pi_j}),$$

$v \geq 0$ . This model preserves the odds ratio,  $P(T_i \rightarrow T_j) / P(T_j \rightarrow T_i) = \pi_i / \pi_j$ , consistent with the Luce (1959) choice axiom. In addition, the probability of a tie is a maximum when  $\pi_i = \pi_j$  and diminishes as  $\pi_i$  and  $\pi_j$  differ, an intuitively desirable effect.

Let  $b_{ij}^*$  be the sum of the number of ties and twice the number of preferences for  $T_i$  in the  $n_{ij}$  comparisons of  $T_i$  and  $T_j$  and let  $b_i^* = \sum_{j \neq i} b_{ij}^*$ .

Davidson's likelihood equations are

$$\frac{b_i^*}{p_i} - \sum_{j \neq i} n_{ij} (2 + \hat{v} \sqrt{p_j/p_i}) / (p_i + p_j + \hat{v} \sqrt{p_i p_j}) = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, t,$$

$$\sum_i p_i = 1, \quad (4.6)$$

$$\frac{b_0}{\hat{v}} - \sum_{i < j} n_{ij} \sqrt{p_i p_j} / (p_i + p_j + \hat{v} \sqrt{p_i p_j}) = 0,$$

where  $p_i$  is the estimator of  $\pi_i$  and  $\hat{v}$  of  $v$ . The likelihood ratio statistic corresponding to (4.3) is of the same form with  $B_i^*$  replaced by

$$B_i^{**} = \sum_{i < j} n_{ij} \log(p_i + p_j + \hat{v} \sqrt{p_i p_j}) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_i b_i^* \log p_i - b_0 \log \hat{v}. \quad (4.7)$$

Davidson also proposed an iterative solution for the equations (4.6) and examined large-sample theory. He showed that the Rao-Kupper test and the Davidson test for treatment equality are asymptotically equivalent.

The choice between the two methods for extending the basic paired comparisons model to a model allowing for ties seems to be a matter of intuitive appeal. Both give very similar results in applications.

#### 4.2. Adjustments for Order

In paired comparisons, there is often concern for the effects of order of presentation of the two items in a pair. Experiments are often conducted so that, for each pair of treatments, each order of presentation is used equally frequently in an effort to "balance out" the effects of order. Scheffé (1952) addressed this problem in the analysis of variance. Beaver and Gokhale (1975) extended our basic model to allow for order effects.

Davidson and Beaver in an undated manuscript describe the Beaver-Gokhale model as having additive order effects and discuss also a model with multiplicative order effects suggested by Beaver (1976). For the ordered pair  $(T_i, T_j)$ , Beaver and Gokhale defined

$$P_{ij}(T_i \rightarrow T_j) = \frac{\pi_i + \delta_{ij}}{\pi_i + \pi_j}, \quad P_{ij}(T_j \rightarrow T_i) = \frac{\pi_j - \delta_{ij}}{\pi_i + \pi_j} \quad (4.8)$$

and, for the ordered pair  $(T_j, T_i)$ ,

$$P_{ji}(T_i \rightarrow T_j) = \frac{\pi_i - \delta_{ij}}{\pi_i + \pi_j}, \quad P_{ji}(T_j \rightarrow T_i) = \frac{\pi_j + \delta_{ij}}{\pi_i + \pi_j}. \quad (4.9)$$

The corresponding probabilities for the model with multiplicative order effects are

$$\begin{aligned} P_{ij}(T_i \rightarrow T_j) &= \frac{\theta_{ij} \pi_i}{\theta_{ij} \pi_i + \pi_j}, \quad P_{ij}(T_j \rightarrow T_i) = \frac{\pi_j}{\theta_{ij} \pi_i + \pi_j}, \\ P_{ji}(T_i \rightarrow T_j) &= \frac{\pi_i}{\pi_i + \theta_{ij} \pi_j}, \quad P_{ji}(T_j \rightarrow T_i) = \frac{\theta_{ij} \pi_j}{\pi_i + \theta_{ij} \pi_j}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.10)$$

The model given by (4.8) and (4.9) requires that  $|\delta_{ij}| \leq \max(\pi_i, \pi_j)$ , an awkward feature, while the model (4.10) only requires that  $\theta_{ij} > 0$ . Advantages of the multiplicative model (4.10) are:

- (i) Preference probabilities depend on the worth parameters  $\pi_i$  and  $\pi_j$  only through the ratio  $\pi_i/\pi_j$ .
- (ii) Model (4.10) admits a sufficient statistic whose dimension is that of the parameter space.

(iii) Model (4.10) is a linear model and, for example,

$$P_{ij}(T_i \rightarrow T_j) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-(\log \pi_i - \log \pi_j) - \log \theta_{ij}}^{\infty} \text{sech}^2 y/2 \, dy.$$

For these reasons, we limit further discussion to (4.10).

Explicit methodology for model (4.10) and its special cases does not appear in the statistical literature, although it is implied by Davidson and Beaver. Various likelihood ratio tests and associated estimation procedures can be developed easily when needed. We consider only the special case when  $\theta_{ij} = \theta$  for all  $i \neq j$ . Then the likelihood equations are

$$\frac{a_i}{p_i^*} - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{n_{ij} \hat{\theta}}{(\hat{\theta} p_i^* + p_j^*)} - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{n_{ji}}{(p_i^* + \hat{\theta} p_j^*)} = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, t,$$

$$\sum_i p_i^* = 1, \quad (4.11)$$

$$\frac{f}{\hat{\theta}} - \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{n_{ij} p_i^*}{(\hat{\theta} p_i^* + p_j^*)} = 0,$$

where  $f$  is the total number of preferences for the first presented item of a pair,  $p_i^*$  is the estimator of  $\pi_i$  and  $\hat{\theta}$  of  $\theta$ , while  $n_{ij}$  is the number of judgments on the ordered pair  $(T_i, T_j)$  and  $n_{ji}$  is the number of judgments on the ordered pair  $(T_j, T_i)$ . The likelihood ratio statistic for  $H_0: \pi_i = 1/t$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ , versus  $H_a: \pi_i \neq 1/t$  for some  $i$  in the presence of an order effect is

$$-2 \log \lambda_1^* = 2N \log N - 2f \log f - 2(N-f) \log(N-f) - 2B_1^*, \quad (4.12)$$

where

$$B_1^+ = \sum_{i \neq j} n_{ij} \log(\hat{\theta} p_i^* + p_j^*) - \sum_i a_i \log p_i^* - f \log \hat{\theta}. \quad (4.13)$$

Again, under  $H_0$ ,  $-2 \log \lambda_1^+$  has the central chi-square distribution with  $(t-1)$  degrees of freedom. A test for the presence of a common order effect,  $H_0: \theta = 1$  versus  $H_a: \theta \neq 1$ , follows immediately. For this test,

$$-2 \log \lambda_4 = 2(B_1 - B_1^+) \quad (4.14)$$

has the central chi-square distribution with 1 degree of freedom when  $\theta = 1$ .

In (4.14),  $B_1$  is taken from (3.6).

Other tests could be developed. One of interest is the test for a common order effect:  $H_0: \theta_{ij} = \theta$  for all  $i \neq j$ ,  $H_a: \theta_{ij} \neq \theta$  for some  $i, j$ ,  $i \neq j$ . Such a test could be described as a test of order by treatment pair interaction.

Note that neither model for order effects suggests that an effort to balance out the effects of order is exactly right. Note also that both order effects and ties could be important and this is the situation addressed by Davidson and Beaver in their unpublished manuscript.

#### 4.3. A Bayesian Approach

Davidson and Solomon (1973) considered a Bayesian approach to the estimation of the worth parameters  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_t$  of paired comparisons. Let  $\underline{a}^0 = [a_{ij}^0]$  and  $\underline{n}^0 = [n_{ij}^0]$ ,  $n_{ii}^0 = a_{ii}^0 = 0$ ,  $n_{ij}^0 = n_{ji}^0$ . They formulated a conjugate prior distribution for the parameters,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \phi(\pi) &= A(a^0, n^0) \prod_{i < j} \pi_i^{a_{ij}^0} \pi_j^{a_{ji}^0} / (\pi_i + \pi_j)^{n_{ij}^0}, \quad \pi \in \Omega, \\
 &= A(a^0, n^0) \prod_i \pi_i^{a_i^0} / \prod_{i < j} (\pi_i + \pi_j)^{n_{ij}^0},
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.15}$$

where  $\Omega = \{\pi: \pi_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, t, \sum_i \pi_i = 1\}$ . They restricted attention to densities (4.15) for which  $a_{ij}^0 \geq 0$  and  $a_{ij}^0 + a_{ji}^0 = n_{ij}^0$ . They noted that, even with these restrictions, each  $(a^0, n^0)$  determines a distinct prior distribution and that the family of priors can represent a wide spectrum of prior beliefs. Davidson and Solomon suggested that the experimenter think of his prior beliefs in terms of a conceptual experiment with  $n_{ij}^0$  responses to the pair  $(T_i, T_j)$  with  $a_{ij}^0$  of them being preferences for  $T_i$ . Choice of  $n_{ij}^0$  is to be made as a measure of the strength of the experimenter's beliefs on the pair  $(T_i, T_j)$ .

It is noted that the selection of an estimator for the vector of worth parameters  $\pi$  is of central interest. This is to be done on the basis of the prior distribution (4.15) and the results of experimentation summarized in the likelihood function conditioned on  $\pi$ ,

$$\ell(a|\pi) = \prod_i \pi_i^{a_i} \prod_{i < j} \binom{n_{ij}}{a_{ij}} (\pi_i + \pi_j)^{-n_{ij}}.
 \tag{4.16}$$

The estimator of  $\pi$  can be used to estimate pairwise preference probabilities or to provide a ranking of the items or treatments in the experiment.

One estimator of  $\pi$  is the mode  $p^*$  of the posterior distribution of  $\pi$ . This mode is shown to be the solution of the set of equations,

$$\frac{a_i'}{p_i^*} - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{n_{ij}'}{(p_i^* + p_j^*)} = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, t, \quad (4.17)$$

$$\sum_i p_i^* = 1,$$

where  $n_{ij}' = n_{ij}^0 + n_{ij}$  and  $a_i' = a_i^0 + a_i$ ,  $i < j$ ,  $i, j = 1, \dots, t$ . It is seen that the choice of prior distribution led to a natural combination of prior and experimental information as seen from the definitions of  $n_{ij}'$  and  $a_i'$ . Further, equations (4.17) have the form of equations (3.2) and (3.3).

Davidson and Solomon considered also the Bayes estimator of  $\pi$  under a quadratic loss function, namely  $\bar{p}$ , the mean of the posterior distribution of  $\pi$ . While they did not obtain a closed expression for  $\bar{p}$ , they did show that, if  $n_{ij}' = n'$  for all  $i < j$ , the rankings determined by  $\bar{p}^*$  and  $\bar{p}$  are identical with the Bayes ranking determined by the posterior score  $\bar{a}'$ .

#### 4.4. Triple Comparisons

The basic model for paired comparisons can be extended to triple comparisons in at least two ways. Bradley and Terry (1952b) proposed the model,

$$P(T_i \rightarrow T_j \rightarrow T_k) = \pi_i \pi_j / (\pi_i + \pi_j + \pi_k) (\pi_j + \pi_k) \quad (4.18)$$

for comparison of  $T_i$ ,  $T_j$  and  $T_k$  in a triplet,  $i \neq j \neq k$ ,  $i, j, k = 1, \dots, t$ . Pendergrass and Bradley (1960) proposed the model,

$$P(T_i \rightarrow T_j \rightarrow T_k) = \pi_i^2 \pi_j / [\pi_i^2 (\pi_j + \pi_k) + \pi_j^2 (\pi_i + \pi_k) + \pi_k^2 (\pi_i + \pi_j)]. \quad (4.19)$$

In both models, the  $\pi$ 's may again be regarded as worth parameters with  $\sum_i \pi_i = 1$ .

Both models have some desirable properties as discussed in the second reference.

Model (4.18) is consistent with the Luce choice axiom and can be written as

a Lehmann model (see Bradley (1976)). Model (4.19) has the property that the set of treatment rank sums constitutes a set of sufficient statistics for the estimation of  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_t$ . Basic methodology for the second model is well developed including estimation procedures, tests of hypotheses including goodness of fit, and asymptotic theory.

We show only the estimating equations and the basic test for model (4.19). If  $p_1, \dots, p_t$  are the estimators of  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_t$ , they result from solution of the equations,

$$\frac{a_i}{p_i} - \sum_{\substack{j < k \\ j, k \neq i}} \frac{n_{ijk} [2p_i(p_j + p_k) + p_j^2 + p_k^2]}{D_{ijk}(p)} = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, t, \quad (4.20)$$

$$\sum_i p_i = 1,$$

where

$$D_{ijk}(p) = p_i^2(p_j + p_k) + p_j^2(p_i + p_k) + p_k^2(p_i + p_j) \quad (4.21)$$

and  $n_{ijk}$  is the number of repetitions or rankings on the triplet  $(T_i, T_j, T_k)$ ,  $i < j < k$ . The quantity  $a_i$  in (4.20) is such that  $a_i = 3 \sum_{\substack{j < k \\ j, k \neq i}} n_{ijk} - R_i$ ,

where  $R_i$  is the total sum of ranks for  $T_i$  in the experiment. Pendergrass and Bradley suggest iterative means of solution of the equations (4.20) although they held each  $n_{ijk} = n$  for all  $i < j < k$ .

The likelihood ratio test of  $H_0: \pi_i = 1/t, i = 1, \dots, t$ , versus  $H_a: \pi_i \neq 1/t$  for some  $i$ , is based on

$$-2 \log \lambda_5 = 2N \log 6 + 2 \sum_i a_i \log p_i - 2 \sum_{i < j < k} n_{ijk} \log D_{ijk}(p), \quad (4.22)$$



where  $N = \sum_{i < j < k} n_{ijk}$ . Under  $H_0$ ,  $-2 \log \lambda_5$  has the central chi-square distribution with  $(t-1)$  degrees of freedom for large  $N$ .

Park (1961) applied the Pendergrass-Bradley procedures to experimental data and compared the results with those from companion experiments using paired comparisons. He found good model fits and estimator agreement.

### 5. Treatment Contrasts and Factorials

It became apparent very early in applications of paired comparisons to sensory experimentation that there was need for special analyses when the treatments represented factorial treatment combinations. Abelson and Bradley (1954) attempted to address this need with very limited success and it remained an open problem until solved by Bradley and El-Helbawy (1976). They considered factorial treatment combinations in the more general framework of specified treatment contrasts. This simplified both notation and theory.

In Table 6, we show paired comparisons data for treatments representing a  $2^3$  factorial set of treatment combinations. The data are taken from Bradley and El-Helbawy (1976) and arise from a consumer preference taste test on coffees, where the factors are brew strength, roast color and coffee brand, each at two levels. Twenty-six preference judgments were obtained on each of the 28 distinct treatment comparisons. Note that it is convenient to replace the typical treatment  $T_i$  by  $T_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3}$ ,  $\alpha_i = 1$  or  $0$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , so that the subscripts indicate the chosen levels of the factors. We shall return to these data to illustrate use of the general method explained below with factorials.

Table 6  
Preference Data in Coffee Testing

Treatment preferred, $T_g$	Treatment not preferred, $T_g$									$a_g$
		000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111	
$g$	000	--	15	15	16	19	14	19	16	114
	001	11	--	10	15	15	14	15	12	92
	010	11	16	--	15	15	14	18	15	104
	011	10	11	11	--	14	11	15	13	85
	100	7	11	11	12	--	9	14	13	77
	101	12	12	12	15	17	--	16	18	102
	110	7	11	8	11	12	10	--	12	71
	111	10	14	11	13	13	8	14	--	83

$$a_i/p_i - \phi_i(\underline{p}) = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, t, \quad (5.4)$$

$$\sum_i \log p_i = 0,$$

where  $\underline{p} = (p_1, \dots, p_t)$ ,

$$\phi_i(\underline{p}) = \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{n_{ij}}{p_i + p_j} - \frac{1}{p_i} \sum_{j \neq i} E_j(\underline{p}) \frac{D_{ij}}{D_{ii}}, \quad (5.5)$$

$$E_i(\underline{p}) = a_i - \sum_{j \neq i} n_{ij} p_i / (p_i + p_j), \quad (5.6)$$

$i = 1, \dots, t$ , and  $D_{ij}$  is the typical element of

$$D = I_t - \underline{B}' \underline{B}, \quad (5.7)$$

$D_{ii} > 0$ ,  $I_t$ , the t-square identity matrix. Note the similar forms in (5.6) and (3.2). If  $m = 0$ , the estimation process involves solution of (3.2) replaced by (5.3).

Iterative solution of equations (5.4) is discussed briefly by Bradley and El-Helbawy (1976) and in detail by El-Helbawy and Bradley (1977). In the latter reference, it is shown that the proposed iterative procedure converges and yields a maximum of the likelihood function over the parameter space  $\{\pi: \pi_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, t, \sum_i \log \pi_i = 0, \tilde{B}_m \log \pi = \tilde{0}_m\}$ .

A class of likelihood ratio tests may be developed. Let  $\tilde{B}_{m_a}$ ,  $\tilde{B}_{m_1}$ , and  $\tilde{B}_{m_0} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{B}_{m_a} \\ \tilde{B}_{m_1} \end{bmatrix}$  be matrices like  $\tilde{B}_m$ ,  $0 \leq m_a, m_1 \leq m_0 \leq (t-1)$ ,  $m_0 = m_a + m_1$ .

With the condition that  $\sum_i \log \pi_i = 0$ , we test

$$H_0: \tilde{B}_{m_0} \log \pi = 0 \quad (5.8)$$

against

$$H_a: \tilde{B}_{m_a} \log \pi = 0. \quad (5.9)$$

The test statistic is

$$-2 \log \lambda_{m_0, m_a} = 2[B_1(p_0) - B_1(p_a)], \quad (5.10)$$

where  $B_1$  is defined in (3.6), and, for large  $N = \sum_{i < j} n_{ij}$  and under  $H_0$  in (5.8), the statistic has the central chi-square distribution with  $m_1$  degrees of freedom. In (5.10),  $p_0$  is the solution of (5.4) where  $\tilde{B}_m = \tilde{B}_{m_0}$  and  $p_a$ , the solution when  $\tilde{B}_m = \tilde{B}_{m_a}$ . Basically, the test involves the assumption that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1' \\ \tilde{B}_{m_a} \end{bmatrix} \log \pi = \tilde{O}_{m_a+1}$$

and a test of the additional constraints,

$$\tilde{B}_{m_1} \log \pi = \tilde{O}_{m_1},$$

$\tilde{B}_{m_1}$  consisting of  $m_1$  orthonormal rows orthogonal to those of  $\tilde{B}_{m_a}$ .

The test procedure is illustrated with the data of Table 6. Treatments  $T_i$  have subscripts in the lexicographic order of  $T_{\underline{a}}$  in the table. Suppose that we wish to test the hypothesis that there are no two-factor interactions on the assumption that there is no three-factor interaction. Then  $t = 8$ ,  $m_a = 1$ ,  $m_1 = 3$ ,  $m_0 = 4$  with

$$\tilde{B}_{m_a} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} (1, -1, -1, 1, -1, 1, 1, -1)$$

and

$$\tilde{B}_{m_1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Necessary calculations yield:

$$\underline{p}_0 = (1.300, 1.275, 1.060, 1.040, 0.962, 0.944, 0.784, 0.769),$$

$$\underline{p}_a = (1.515, 1.060, 1.342, 0.855, 0.790, 1.193, 0.647, 0.890),$$

$$B_1(\underline{p}_0) = 497.81, B_1(\underline{p}_a) = 490.14,$$

$$-2 \log \lambda_{m_0, m_a} = 2(497.81 - 490.14) = 15.34.$$

The statistic,  $-2 \log \lambda_{m_0, m_a}$  has the central chi-square distribution with 3 degrees of freedom and is large. It is possible also to partition this chi-square into three chi-squares, each with 1 degree of freedom, as is done in Table 7.

The general test procedure for hypothesis (5.8) versus (5.9) based on the statistic (5.10) may be used repeatedly to produce an analysis of chi-square table. Two such analyses are given in Tables 7 and 8 for the data of Table 6. Rows in these tables correspond to rows of the usual analysis of variance table for a  $2^3$  factorial and similar descriptive terms have been used. In order to preserve orthogonality of the various chi-squares, they must be sequenced properly; each row requires that certain conditions be assumed, equivalent to the specification of  $B_{m_a}$ . Both Tables 7 and 8 are shown to illustrate two different sequencings of the rows and to suggest that the choice of sequencing does not have substantial effects on the inferences that may be made. Additional details on computations for Tables 7 and 8 are given by Bradley and El-Helbawy (1976).

The analyses below were done through recognition of the factorial structure of the treatments. Factorial parameters may be introduced formally, although it is not necessary to do so. We illustrate with the  $2^3$  factorial. Let  $\pi_g$  replace  $\pi_i$  for the treatment  $T_g \equiv T_i$ , where  $g = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$ ,  $\alpha_r = 0$  or 1,  $r = 1, 2, 3$ . We reparameterize by writing

$$\pi_g = \prod_{r=1}^3 \pi_{\alpha_r}^{(r)} \cdot \prod_{r < s} \pi_{\alpha_r \alpha_s}^{(rs)} \cdot \pi_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3}^{(123)}. \quad (5.11)$$

The parameters on the right-hand side of (5.11) are new factorial parameters. The transformation is linear if logarithms are taken; the logarithms of the

Table 7  
An Analysis of Chi-square for the Coffee Data

Hypothesis tested*	Conditions assumed	Degrees of freedom	Chi-square
No $F_1$ effect	No $F_2 F_3$ , no interactions	1	9.28
No $F_2$ effect	No $F_3$ , no interactions	1	4.29
No $F_3$ effect	No interactions	1	0.04
No $F_1 F_2$ , $F_1 F_3$ , $F_2 F_3$ interactions	No $F_1 F_2 F_3$ interaction	3	15.34
No $F_2 F_3$ interaction	No $F_1 F_2 F_3$ interaction	1	0.22
No $F_1 F_3$ interaction	No $F_2 F_3$ , $F_1 F_2 F_3$ interactions	1	14.96
No $F_1 F_2$ interaction	No $F_1 F_3$ , $F_2 F_3$ , $F_1 F_2 F_3$ interactions	1	0.15
No $F_1 F_2 F_3$ interaction	None	1	0.63
No treatment effects	None	7	29.58

\* $F_1$  is brew strength,  $F_2$  is roast colour,  $F_3$  is brand.

Table 8

An Alternative Analysis of Chi-square for the Coffee Data

Hypothesis tested*	Conditions assumed	Degrees of freedom	Chi-square
No $F_1$ effect	None	1	9.47
No $F_2$ effect	No $F_1$ effect	1	4.33
No $F_3$ effect	No $F_1$ , $F_2$ effects	1	0.04
No $F_1 F_2$ , $F_1 F_3$ , $F_2 F_3$ interactions	No main effects	3	15.12
No $F_1 F_2$ interaction	No main effects	1	0.16
No $F_1 F_3$ interaction	No main effects, no $F_1 F_2$ interaction	1	14.73
No $F_2 F_3$ interaction	No main effects, no $F_1 F_2$ , $F_1 F_3$ interactions	1	0.24
No $F_1 F_2 F_3$ interaction	No main effects, no two-factor interactions	1	0.62
No treatment effects	None	7	29.58

\* $F_1$  is brew strength,  $F_2$  is roast colour,  $F_3$  is brand.

new factorial parameters are subject to the usual linear constraints for factorial parameters in the analysis of variance in order to make the transformation one-to-one. Estimators of the factorial parameters are functions of the estimators  $p_{\alpha}$ . A full explanation of these procedures is given by El-Helbawy and Bradley (1976).

Special treatment contrasts may be of interest in paired comparisons. Suppose that, in a coffee taste test experiment with  $t = 4$ ,  $T_4$  represents an experimental coffee produced by a new process while the other treatments came from a standard process. One may wish to compare  $T_4$  with the other three treatments. Two approaches are possible. The first assumes nothing,  $m_a = 0$ , and takes

$$\underline{B}_{m_1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} (1, 1, 1, -3).$$

The second approach assumes that  $\pi_1 = \pi_2 = \pi_3$ ,  $m_a = 2$ ,

$$\underline{B}_{m_a} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{6} & 1/\sqrt{6} & -2/\sqrt{6} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and retains the same  $\underline{B}_{m_1}$ . With these matrices defined, the general test procedure of this section is used.

We have presented a method for the examination of specified treatment contrasts and the analysis of factorial paired comparison experiments together with examples. These methods provide much new flexibility.

## 6. Multivariate Paired Comparisons

Multivariate responses to paired comparisons are often obtained. For example, this happens in consumer testing where, on paired samples, preferences on a number of characteristics are solicited.

Davidson and Bradley (1969) extended the paired comparisons model to the multivariate case. Let  $\underline{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_p)$ ,  $s_\alpha = i$  or  $j$ , be the response vector on attributes  $\alpha = 1, \dots, p$  for the treatment pair  $(T_i, T_j)$ ,  $s_\alpha = i$  indicating preference for  $T_i$  on attribute  $\alpha$ . The probability of response  $\underline{s}$  on  $(T_i, T_j)$  is

$$P(\underline{s}|i,j) = p^{(1)}(\underline{s}|i,j)h(\underline{s}|i,j), \quad (6.1)$$

where

$$p^{(1)}(\underline{s}|i,j) = \prod_{\alpha=1}^p \pi_{\alpha s_\alpha} / (\pi_{\alpha i} + \pi_{\alpha j}) \quad (6.2)$$

and

$$h(\underline{s}|i,j) = 1 + \sum_{\alpha < \beta} \delta(s_\alpha, s_\beta) \rho_{\alpha\beta} (\pi_{\alpha i} / \pi_{\alpha j})^{-\delta(i, s_\alpha)/2} (\pi_{\beta i} / \pi_{\beta j})^{-\delta(i, s_\beta)/2}, \quad (6.3)$$

for all  $\underline{s}$ ,  $i < j$ ,  $i, j = 1, \dots, t$ . Notation is as follows:  $\pi_{\alpha i}$  is the worth parameter for  $T_i$  on attribute  $\alpha$ ,  $\sum_i \pi_{\alpha i} = 1$ ,  $\rho_{\alpha\beta}$  is a "correlation" parameter for attributes  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  assumed constant for all treatment pairs, and  $\delta(s_\alpha, s_\beta) = 1$  or  $-1$  as the two arguments of the indicator function agree or disagree. Note that  $\rho = \underline{0}$  implies independence of responses on attributes;  $\rho$  has typical element  $\rho_{\alpha\beta}$ . It is necessary to restrict the parameter space so that  $\pi_{\alpha i} \geq 0$ ,  $\alpha = 1, \dots, p$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, t$ , and  $h(\underline{s}|i,j) \geq 0$  for each of the  $2^p$  cells associated with each of the  $\binom{t}{2}$  treatment pairs.



Let

$$B(\pi) = - \sum_{\alpha=1}^p B_1(\pi_\alpha) \quad (6.4)$$

and

$$C(\pi, \rho) = \sum_{i < j} \sum_{\underline{s}} f(\underline{s}|i, j) \log h(\underline{s}|i, j), \quad (6.5)$$

where  $\pi$  has typical element  $\pi_{\alpha i}$  and  $\pi_\alpha$  is the  $\alpha^{\text{th}}$  row of  $\pi$ . The quantity  $B_1(\pi_\alpha)$  is the function  $B_1$  of (3.6) with  $p_i$  there replaced by  $\pi_{\alpha i}$  and  $a_i$  replaced by  $a_{\alpha i}$ , the total number of preferences for  $T_i$  on attribute  $\alpha$ . In addition,  $f(\underline{s}|i, j)$  is the number of times the preference vector  $\underline{s}$  occurs among the  $n_{ij}$  responses to the pair  $(T_i, T_j)$ . We may express the logarithm of the likelihood function as

$$\log L = C(\pi, \rho) + B(\pi). \quad (6.6)$$

Consider first a test for independence:  $H_0: \rho = 0$  versus  $H_a: \rho_{\alpha\beta} \neq 0$  for some  $\alpha < \beta$ ,  $\alpha, \beta = 1, \dots, p$ . Under  $H_0$ , the likelihood equations reduce to equations (3.2) and (3.3) for each  $\alpha = 1, \dots, p$ . If  $\underline{p}_\alpha^0$  is the solution for the  $\alpha^{\text{th}}$  set of equations and becomes the  $\alpha^{\text{th}}$  row of  $\underline{p}^0$ ,  $\underline{p}^0$  estimates  $\pi$  under  $H_0$ . Under  $H_a$ , the equations to be solved are:

$$\sum_{i < j} f(\underline{s}|i, j) h^{-1}(\underline{s}|i, j) \delta(s_\alpha, s_\beta) (\pi_{\alpha i} / \pi_{\alpha j})^{-\delta(i, s_\alpha)/2} (\pi_{\beta i} / \pi_{\beta j})^{-\delta(i, s_\beta)/2} \bigg|_{\substack{\pi = \underline{p} \\ \rho = \underline{\rho}}} = 0, \quad (6.7)$$

$\alpha < \beta$ ,  $\alpha, \beta = 1, \dots, p$ ,

$$\frac{a_{\alpha i} + R_{\alpha i}}{p_{\alpha i}} - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{n_{ij}}{p_{\alpha i} + p_{\alpha j}} = 0,$$

$$i = 1, \dots, t, \alpha = 1, \dots, p,$$

$$\sum_i p_{\alpha i} = 1, \alpha = 1, \dots, p,$$

where

$$R_{\alpha i} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \neq i} \sum_{\underline{s}} f(\underline{s}|i,j) h^{-1}(\underline{s}|i,j) \times$$

$$(\pi_{\alpha i} / \pi_{\alpha j})^{-\delta(i, s_{\alpha})/2} \sum_{\substack{\beta \\ \beta \neq \alpha}} \delta(i, s_{\beta}) \rho_{\alpha\beta} (\pi_{\beta i} / \pi_{\beta j})^{-\delta(i, s_{\beta})/2}. \quad (6.8)$$

Solutions of equations (6.7) is discussed by Davidson and Bradley (1969).

If we let  $\underline{p}$  and  $\hat{\underline{p}}$  be the estimators of  $\underline{\pi}$  and  $\underline{\rho}$  from equations (6.7), the likelihood ratio test statistic is

$$-2 \log \lambda_6 = 2\{B(\underline{p}) - B(\underline{p}^0) + C(\underline{p}, \hat{\underline{p}})\} \quad (6.9)$$

and, under  $H_0$ , it has the central chi-square distribution with  $\frac{1}{2}p(p-1)$  degrees of freedom.

If it is assumed that  $\underline{\rho} = \underline{0}$ , tests on the parameters  $\pi_{\alpha}$  may be made separately as in the univariate case for each  $\alpha = 1, \dots, p$ .

An overall test of no treatment preferences may be made in the presence of correlations. Then we have  $H_0: \underline{\pi} = [1/t]$  and  $H_a: \pi_{\alpha i} \neq 1/t$  for some  $\alpha$  and  $i$ . Under  $H_a$ , the estimators from equations (6.7) are again  $\underline{p}$  and  $\hat{\underline{p}}$ . Under  $H_0$ , the estimators of  $\underline{\pi}$  and  $\underline{\rho}$  are  $[1/t]$  and  $\hat{\underline{\rho}}_0$ , the latter obtained from solution of (6.7) with  $\underline{p} = [1/t]$ . The test statistic is

$$-2 \log \lambda_7 = 2\{B(\underline{p}) + C(\underline{p}, \hat{\underline{p}}) + pN \log 2 - C(1/t, \hat{\underline{\rho}}_0)\} \quad (6.10)$$

with the central chi-square distribution with  $p(t-1)$  degrees of freedom under  $H_0$ .

A likelihood ratio test of the fit of the model (6.1) is given by Davidson and Bradley. An alternative test may be based on

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i < j} \sum_{\underline{s}} \{f(\underline{s}|i,j) - \hat{f}(\underline{s}|i,j)\}^2 / \hat{f}(\underline{s}|i,j) \quad (6.11)$$

and, under the model, has the central chi-square distribution for large  $N$  with  $\{(2^P-1)\binom{t}{2} - p(t-1) - \binom{P}{2}\}$  degrees of freedom. The estimators  $\underline{p}$  and  $\hat{\underline{p}}$  are substituted in (6.1) to obtain expected cell frequencies

$$\hat{f}(\underline{s}|i,j) = n_{ij} \hat{p}(\underline{s}|i,j).$$

Davidson and Bradley (1970) examine large-sample properties of procedures discussed above. Davidson and Bradley (1971) examine regression relationships among the characteristics in the multivariate problem.

We conclude this section with one of the examples given by Davidson and Bradley (1969). Table 9 shows the observed and expected cell frequencies, the latter in parentheses, for a chocolate pudding test with  $t = 3$ ,  $p = 3$ , the treatments being brands, and the attributes being taste, color and texture.

Table 9  
Observed and Expected Cell Frequencies  
for a Chocolate Pudding Test

Treatment Pair	Cell Frequencies $f(\underline{s} i,j)$								Frequency
$i, j$	Cells $\underline{s}$								$n_{ij}$
	(iii)	(jii)	(iji)	(jji)	(iij)	(jij)	(ijj)	(jjj)	
1, 2	8 (7.93)	1 (1.09)	1 (1.15)	1 (1.69)	0 (0.76)	2 (0.97)	0 (0.37)	9 (8.03)	22
1, 3	6 (6.25)	0 (0.60)	1 (1.24)	1 (0.92)	1 (1.12)	0 (0.62)	1 (0.64)	9 (7.61)	19
2, 3	7 (6.92)	1 (0.37)	1 (1.26)	1 (0.60)	3 (1.70)	1 (0.75)	1 (1.10)	6 (8.31)	21

Details on calculations are not given. However, as a possible check on computer programming, the solution of (6.7) is as follows:

$$\underline{p} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.312 & 0.360 & 0.328 \\ 0.307 & 0.321 & 0.372 \\ 0.338 & 0.288 & 0.374 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{\rho}_{12} &= 0.675 \\ \hat{\rho}_{13} &= 0.654 \\ \hat{\rho}_{23} &= 0.588. \end{aligned}$$

Tests are summarized in Table 10. It is seen that the major effects are the high correlations among responses on attributes.

Table 10  
Test Statistics for Hypotheses  
for the Chocolate Pudding Data

Test	Statistic	Ref. No.	Value	d.f.
Test of Independence	$-2 \log \lambda_6$	(6.9)	62.665	3
Test of Equal Inferences	$-2 \log \lambda_7$	(6.10)	2.362	6
Test of Model Fit	$\chi^2$	(6.11)	7.557	12

As a final comment on the example, cell frequencies are small and asymptotic theory must be regarded only as approximate. The tests do, however, seem to work well and be adequately indicative.

## 7. Other Methods of Paired Comparisons

Our efforts in this chapter have concentrated on one method of paired comparisons and its extensions. This was done because it has been most fully developed and has been found to work well in applications. Even so, it has been necessary to be brief and applications require computer programs that are easily developed after review of pertinent references for additional detail.

We have seen that the Thurstone model is very similar to the one used here. It has had less attention. However, three papers do extend the Thurstone model: Harris (1957) generalized the model to allow for possible order effects, Glenn and David (1960) allowed for ties, and Sadasivan (1982) permitted unequal numbers of judgments on pairs.

Other approaches to the analysis of paired comparisons exist. Kendall and Babington Smith (1940) considered the count of circular triads as a measure of consistency of judgments and also developed a coefficient of concordance as a measure of agreement of judgments by several judges. Guttman (1946) developed a method of scaling treatments in paired comparisons, the objective of Zermello. Saaty (1977) proposed a consensus method through evaluation by group discussion to provide treatment or item scores on a ratio scale. Bliss, Greenwood and White (1956) used "rankits" in the analysis of paired comparisons. Mehra (1964) and Puri and Sen (1969) extended the idea of signed ranks to paired comparisons. Wei (1952) and Kendall (1955) have proposed an iterative scoring system that takes into account not only direct comparisons but also roundabout comparisons involving other items.

No attention has been given here to the design of tournaments. There is an extensive literature on this subject included in the Davidson-Farquhar bibliography.

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This technical report is an invited chapter for the *Handbook of Statistics: Nonparametric Methods*, Volume 4 in a series edited by P. R. Krishnaiah and P. K. Sen and to be published by North-Holland Publishing Company, Amsterdam. Much of the material by the author used in the chapter was developed under ONR-sponsored research at the Florida State University and earlier at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Some minor new generalizations of earlier work are included here.